



The Honorable Richard Shelby, Chairman
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen, Ranking Member
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies

The Honorable John Culberson, Chairman
House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies

The Honorable José Serrano, Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies

Dear Chairmen Shelby and Culberson and Ranking Members Shaheen and Serrano:

On behalf of the offices of Attorneys General we represent, we are writing to share our support of Spotlight, a sex trafficking investigations tool, created by Thorn. Spotlight is an invaluable tool for sex trafficking investigations and prosecutions, and an example of the technology needed to pace the threat of traffickers who are using the internet to facilitate their crimes.

Human trafficking is a growing crime, affecting an estimated 21 million victims worldwide and generating \$150 billion in annual illegal profits. Trafficking is increasingly connected with organized crime and gang activity. It is also becoming more difficult to investigate as it has moved from the street corner to the internet. The internet now houses the largest marketplace for buying and selling children in the United States. With over 150,000 escort ads posted in the country every day, law enforcement cannot manually keep up with the volume of ads as they work to identify and track potential victims.

Thorn's Spotlight tool helps law enforcement more quickly identify sex trafficking victims who are advertised online. Spotlight is used by more than 6,000 law enforcement officers in all 50 states (across federal, state and local agencies including FBI and DHS), and by more than 30 attorney general's offices. Over the past three years, law enforcement have reported using Spotlight in more than 21,000 investigations and to identify more than 18,000 trafficking victims and more than 6,000 traffickers. Spotlight also reduces investigative time by up to 65% -- freeing up critical time investigators need to meet with victims and build the case against their traffickers.

With our federal, state, and local law enforcement partners, attorneys general lead the prosecution of human traffickers within our states. Many of us oversee statewide task forces and participate in the National Association of Attorneys General Human Trafficking Committee to promote best practices in fighting this crime. We know the challenges that law enforcement face in investigating this increasingly digital crime, and we know that Spotlight is a key part of the

puzzle in getting ahead of the traffickers we are up against.

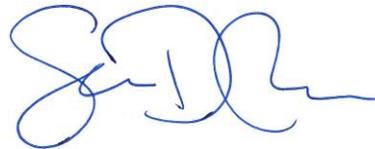
Law enforcement is underfunded and under-resourced in investigating these crimes. Investment in tools like Spotlight at the federal level will empower us in-state with the tools we need to arrest traffickers and protect sex trafficking victims. Thank you in advance for taking interest in how Spotlight assists the States Attorneys General and for your attention to this critical issue.

While we can speak to the impact and importance of Spotlight in the fight against trafficking, we have not performed due diligence sufficient to warrant an investment decision. This letter should be taken into account along with additional normal due diligence in an investment process.

Sincerely,



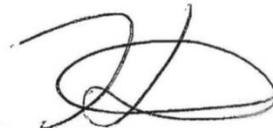
Maura Healey
Attorney General of Massachusetts



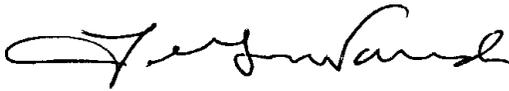
Sean Reyes
Attorney General of Utah



Cynthia H. Coffman
Attorney General of Colorado



Karl A. Racine
Attorney General of District of Columbia



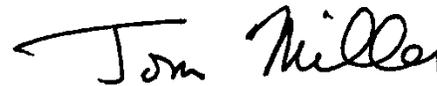
Lawrence Wasden
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